



The Chemistry-Aerosol Mediterranean Experiment

<http://charmex.lsce.ipsl.fr>

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ChArMEX data and publication policy preamble

As part of the international multidisciplinary program MISTRALS (Mediterranean Integrated Studies At Local And Regional Scales), ChArMEX (the Chemistry-Aerosol Mediterranean Experiment) is an international cooperative research program that aims at a better understanding and quantification of the tropospheric chemistry and its impacts in the Mediterranean with a focus on air quality, regional climate, and biogeochemistry, and of their future evolution. To achieve its goals, ChArMEX will document the characteristics of the Mediterranean atmospheric composition and deposition based on a synergy between (i) nested enhanced and special field observation periods over several years from 2010, (ii) existing long term observation series from surface monitoring stations and satellite missions, and (iii) coupled chemistry-transport and chemistry-climate models.

The data collected or produced during the program will be gathered on a common database for secured, facilitated and enhanced availability. Since ChArMEX is composed of many scientific projects and involves a large research community from various disciplines and methodological backgrounds, the present data and publication policy aims at developing the exchange and use of local, satellite and model data to foster collaborations. It defines the access rules to the data and details the mutual rights and obligations of data providers and users.

The present data and publication policy has been defined by the Scientific Committee (SC). It is valid from July 1, 2012 to August 30, 2020. This policy covers the data collected during the ChArMEX operational phase and the outputs of relevant ChArMEX model experiments. It may be revised in order to fit at best the ChArMEX program and database evolutions, as deemed necessary by the ChArMEX SC. At the term of this eight-year period, the MISTRALS governing board will be responsible for defining how data archive and data access shall be handled.

Since the data are originally collected or produced for specific purposes, no warranty is given as to their suitability for the use intended by the recipient. The database centres and the data providers have no liability for any loss, damage, claim, demand, cost or expense directly or indirectly arising from any use, receipt or supply of data under this agreement.

Definitions

In the context of this policy:

- *Data* are any kind of products, observations or models, either produced by ChArMEX participants or externally produced, which are stored in the ChArMEX database and contribute to its scientific goals. Data are either public or restricted to registered users.
- *Metadata* includes all information describing the data contents, including an extensive catalogue. The ChArMEX metadata are public.
- *Data owners* are the agencies or institutes funding the data collection.

- *Principal investigators* are the scientists responsible for a dataset, from collection to processing. Generally principal investigators are the *dataset contacts*. Principal investigators receive an email each time the dataset they are responsible for is being downloaded.
- *Scientific Committee* and PI decide whether a non ChArMEx user can be granted access to the database as Associated User. The Scientific Committee members are listed on the home page of the ChArMEx database website.
- *Data providers* are the persons mandated to transfer data to the database. They are either data owners or principal investigators following the institute regulations. There are two categories of data providers described hereafter.
- *Core data providers* are data providers that are from institutions providing funding or in-kind support to ChArMEx, according to the criteria set by the ChArMEx SC.
- *Associated data providers* are data providers that are not directly participating in ChArMEx but wish to add scientifically meaningful content to ChArMEx database in order to help and take part to the achievements of ChArMEx scientific and/or educational goals.
- *Public users* are non-registered data users. They have only access to metadata and public data from the database.
- *Registered data users* can access restricted data from the ChArMEx database. They are granted royalty-free access to the data through an on-line registration process on the database that include acceptance of the present data and publication policy. Each new registration will be communicated to all the members of ChArMEx SC. There are two categories of registered data users described hereafter.
- *Core users* are ChArMEx data providers and scientists from institutions providing funding or in-kind support to ChArMEx, according to the criteria set by the ChArMEx SC. *Core users* can access all the data. They are granted exclusive access to the ChArMEx data for a default period of 2 years from data deposit deadline on the database as defined in paragraph 3.
- *Associated users* are not directly participating in ChArMEx but take part to scientific studies or educational activities that can promote the dissemination of ChArMEx data and science. Associated users may be granted access to all the data or to a limited subset of data following respective datasets Principal investigators decisions.

Data provider obligations

- The core data provider has to submit the quality-controlled data to the database within 6 months of the data acquisition. For complicated or large datasets requiring extensive processing and quality control, exceptions can be permitted after examination by the ChArMEx SC.
- Associated data providers are encouraged doing their best effort in order to submit quality-controlled data (file format can be NASA Ames, ASCII CSV, NetCDF), as

soon as possible. The ChArMEx database staff may advise and help about data formatting issues.

- The data provider shall transfer their data to the ChArMEx database free of charge.
- Unless otherwise specified by their data provider, the datasets will be firstly reserved to registered users for the default period of 2 years and will automatically be public after this period.
- A dataset within the ChArMEx database can be opened to associated scientists or public domain before the expiration of the initial period of exclusive use by the core users. This has to be stated by the data provider for a particular dataset.
- A dataset can be updated at any time. The data provider is responsible for providing the best quality version of the dataset to the ChArMEx database. The data users having uploaded previous versions of the dataset will be informed of updates through automatic mailing.
- Data providers are invited to refer any data misuse to the database managers.

Registered data user obligations

- To access non-public data, users have to fill the on-line registration form (<http://mistrals.sedoo.fr/ChArMEx/Data-Access-Registration/>) and describe the work they intend to do with the ChArMEx data. Registrations are handled by the ChArMEx Coordination Office following the criteria established by the ChArMEx SC. Registration is valid for 3 years.
- Commercial use and exploitation of ChArMEx data by the data user are prohibited, unless specific permission has been obtained in writing from the data owner. The first contact for such an agreement is the dataset contact whose name is mentioned in the data catalogue.
- No data transfer to third parties is allowed from any registered user having received data under the ChArMEx data and publication policy.
- Any access to a dataset by a registered user will automatically trigger an e-mail to the dataset contact so that he/she is aware of who intends to use the data. If the data user makes an effective use of the dataset retrieved, he/she shall establish direct contacts with the dataset contact in order to offer collaboration.
- Co-authorship of the data principal investigators and users should be the rule for papers making extensive use of ChArMEx datasets. In any case the data user is expected to contact the principal investigator to agree on either co-authorship or acknowledgement.
- The agencies or institutions funding data collection and the database centres have to be acknowledged in any publication or communication using the data with the following sentence: “All measurement presented here are from the Chemistry-Aerosol Mediterranean Experiment project(ChArMEx , <http://charmex.lsce.ipsl.fr>), which is the atmospheric component of the French multidisplinary program MISTRALS (Mediterranean Integrated Studies aT Regional And Local Scales). ChArMEx-France was principally funded by INSU, ADEME, ANR, CNES, CTC (Corsica region), EU/FEDER, Météo-France, and CEA ». Every dataset provider is

invited to propose a specific extra acknowledgment sentence. The complete acknowledgement sentence to be used is written in the metadata and must be reproduced in any publication using the dataset.

- Any communication or publication making use of ChArMEX data shall be transmitted in electronic form to the ChArMEX Project Office using the address publiccharmex@sedoo.fr as soon as it is submitted to a journal, conference or any other organisation. The Project Office, on behalf of the ChArMEX SC, may require changes in the publication as deemed necessary for the appropriate reference of ChArMEX datasets or acknowledgement of ChArMEX contribution.
- Users having produced significant processed datasets or products based on the use of a dataset or product of the database should inform the database managers. If so decided by the ChArMEX SC the processed products should be provided to the database and disseminated users according to the rules described herein.
- Registered users accept the obligations described herein attached to the use of the data. If a user breaks the data and publication policy rules, the database centre managers will remove him/her from the registered user directory and ask him/her to delete all the copies of the datasets he/she has obtained from the database.

Contact :

databasecontact@charmex.org

Service de données de l'Observatoire Midi Pyrénées | 31400 Toulouse